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Advancement of women: advancement of women

In-depth study on all forms of violence against women

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report summarizes the mandate, preparatory process, content and recommendations of the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women. It transmits the study to the General Assembly in an annex, issued as document A/61/122/Add.1.

* A/61/150.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 58/185, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study on all forms of violence against women and, on the basis thereof, to submit a report, with the study as an annex, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session. The resolution called for the study to include action-oriented recommendations, for consideration by States, encompassing, inter alia, effective remedies and prevention and rehabilitation measures. The Assembly requested that the study should be conducted in close cooperation with all relevant bodies of the United Nations, as well as with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences. The resolution called for the solicitation of information, including on strategies, policies, programmes and best practices, from Member States and relevant non-governmental organizations. In its resolution 60/136, the Assembly extended the deadline for submission and in-depth consideration to the sixty-first session.

2. In recent years, the General Assembly has addressed various aspects of violence against women, requesting separate reports for several of them, usually on a biannual basis. These include traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (resolution 56/128), domestic violence against women (resolution 58/147), crimes against women committed in the name of honour (resolution 59/165), trafficking in women and girls (resolution 59/166), elimination of all forms of violence against women (resolution 59/167), and violence against women migrant workers (resolution 60/139). The study also responds to mandates provided under these resolutions.

3. The present report transmits the study to the General Assembly for consideration and action.

II. Preparation of the study

4. An interim report summarizing the status of preparations for the study was submitted to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session (A/60/211). That report highlighted the context, value added, goals and scope of the study and gave an overview of ongoing and planned preparatory activities.

5. The study's preparatory process benefited from broad consultations with, and inputs by, many different stakeholders. It provided a unique opportunity for highlighting the continuing challenges in addressing all forms and manifestations of violence against women, for enhancing political commitment to prevent and address such violence, and for strengthening concerted action against such violence and increasing accountability at all levels, and by all stakeholders.

6. The study reflects the inputs and contributions of many actors. A total of 129 Member States included information on violence against women in their responses to the 10-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2005/2 and Corr.1). Some 49 Member States provided additional information in response to a note verbale of March 2005. Many of the 150 reports submitted by States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women between January 2000 and December 2005 included information on their efforts to prevent and address violence against women.

7. Entities of the United Nations system made important contributions, providing reports, studies and other documentation, collaborating in expert group meetings, and contributing to awareness-raising concerning the study. A workshop held in December 2005 prepared the ground for follow-up by the entities of the United Nations system to the study.

8. Steps were also taken to consult other international, as well as regional organizations, and bodies of the United Nations such as human rights treaty bodies and special procedures, in particular the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. Contact was maintained throughout the preparatory process with the Independent Expert for the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children and his secretariat.

9. A large number of non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society provided inputs and contributed to ongoing information exchange and awareness-raising. These and other resources are available on the website of the Division for the Advancement of Women (http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/index.htm).

10. Briefings, consultations and panel discussions involving representatives of Member States, United Nations entities and civil society took place throughout the preparatory process. Consultative mechanisms involving experts and representatives from United Nations entities and civil society were established early in the process, and are expected to carry forward the momentum into the follow-up phase. Further details of these activities are available on the website of the Division.

11. Voluntary contributions were received from eight Member States to support preparation of the study.

III. Content of the study and its recommendations

12. The study gives an overview (chap. 1) of the emergence of violence against women as a public concern and responsibility. It discusses the context where such violence occurs and its causes (chap. 2), then proceeds to reviewing forms and manifestations, as well as consequences and costs of such violence (chap. 3). The study discusses the current status of data availability (chap. 4), the responsibilities of States (chap. 5), as well as promising practices for addressing violence against women (chap. 6).

13. Ending violence against women must become a local, national, regional and global priority. Detailed recommendations for action on violence against women have been developed in intergovernmental agreements and in reports, studies, and guidelines by different actors. Significant gaps remain in their effective implementation, however. The study's recommendations (chap. 7) aim at accelerating implementation and enhancing action to prevent and respond to violence against women.

14. The study proposes recommendations for six key areas for action at the national level, aimed at: securing gender equality and protecting women's human rights; exercising leadership to end violence against women; closing the gaps between international standards and national laws, policies and practices; strengthening the knowledge base on all forms of violence against women to inform policy and strategy development; building and sustaining strong multisectoral

strategies, coordinated nationally and locally; and allocating adequate resources and funding. Concrete recommendations are also directed at the international level, and address both the intergovernmental level and the United Nations system. They highlight in particular the role of the General Assembly in ensuring that meaningful follow-up and implementation is undertaken by different stakeholders. Together, these recommendations constitute a clear strategy for Member States and the United Nations system to make measurable progress in preventing and eliminating violence against women.

15. In transmitting it to the General Assembly, the Secretary-General commends the study, and in particular its recommendations, to all Member States for consideration and immediate action.

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Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/61/50 and Corr.1

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I. Introduction

1. On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/94, entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region", by which, inter alia, it called upon all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region, and encouraged all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register on Conventional Arms. The Assembly also encouraged the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society. Furthermore, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region. The present report is submitted in compliance with that request and on the basis of information received from Member States.

2. In this connection, a note verbale dated 28 February 2006 was sent to all Member States requesting their views. To date, the Government of Algeria, Bolivia, Morocco and United Arab Emirates have replied and their responses are contained in section II below. Any replies received subsequently will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. Replies received from Governments

Algeria

[Original: French]
[25 May 2006]

Algeria believes that the issue of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region requires a collective strategy based on Euro-Mediterranean partnership and cooperation, promoting any initiative to make the region a zone of sustainable peace, stability and prosperity.

In a context of relations of trust and good-neighbourliness, forging security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region should reflect respect by the States in the region for the principles of State sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and the right of the region's peoples to self-determination. This calls for full adherence, as underlined in General Assembly resolution 60/94, to the

principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

Algeria welcomes any initiative to promote security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region and hopes to contribute positively to the efforts to establish sustainable stability and prosperity in the region. It regularly and actively takes part in the various regional forums for dialogue, such as the Barcelona Process, the Mediterranean Forum, the Five Plus Five framework, and cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Algeria views Euro-Mediterranean dialogue on the European Security and Defence Policy, begun more than two years ago, as an additional consultation forum for addressing regional concerns and enhancing cooperation in matters of security. Algeria is convinced that the security of the Mediterranean region is inseparable from that of Europe and believes that this dialogue should include security issues and the legitimate concerns raised by the countries of the southern Mediterranean.

Algeria also contributes to the Five Plus Five framework both in the meetings of the Ministers of the Interior and those of the Ministers of Defence. The framework also demonstrates member countries' awareness of the magnitude of the peace and security challenges in the region, which require a global and concerted approach. In that connection, the most recent meeting held on 12 December 2005 in Algiers resulted in the adoption of concrete measures of cooperation for sea, land and air surveillance, primarily covering intervention in case of natural disaster.

Within the framework of the NATO Mediterranean dialogue, Algeria has been working, since it joined in March 2000, to promote positive and constructive dialogue for the consolidation of the peace and collective security of the Mediterranean region. In particular, it is advocating a balance between political and operational aspects. In that connection, when the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, at its spring plenary session from 27 to 31 May 2005 in Ljubljana, voted to grant associate member status to Algeria, it made it possible for Algeria to participate more actively in the committees and subcommittees of the Assembly.

Algeria has contributed to political dialogue through its participation in meetings held by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Brussels in December 2004, the Ministers of Defence in Taormina (Sicily) in January 2006 and the Chiefs of Staff in Brussels in May 2006.

The cooperation of Algeria with OSCE has also been guided by the fundamental principle that security in the Mediterranean region and security in Europe are inseparable. The political dialogue among OSCE and the Mediterranean countries primarily takes place in the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna through the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation in order to facilitate the interchange of information of common interest and propose new cooperation relationships.

Within the group of Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, Algeria is advocating unified responses to the risks and challenges facing Mediterranean countries, including terrorism, transnational organized crime, trafficking and illicit trade in arms, racism, xenophobia, migration and economic disparities.

Algeria also attaches particular importance to regional disarmament efforts, which will contribute to attaining the United Nations goal of general and complete disarmament. In this connection, it should be recalled that Algeria is party to all the international and regional legal instruments on disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It also actively participates in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. In this context, a regional conference to support the implementation of the Programme of Action by Arab States was held in Algiers in April 2005.

Bolivia

[Original: Spanish]
[17 April 2006]

United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/94 adopted on 8 December 2005, reaffirms the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

Bolivia believes that creating an atmosphere of security and cooperation in any region will redound to the common good of the peoples, guaranteeing international peace and security, particularly in a region that is facing the scourge of international crime in its various forms.

Bolivia supports all efforts to achieve stability and development in the international community.

Morocco

[Original: French]
[19 June 2006]

Morocco has always believed that peace, stability and security in the Mediterranean region should represent strategic objectives to be achieved and constitute a common good to be promoted and strengthened.

The Mediterranean region faces challenges to security which are as varied as they are numerous. In addition to often chronic conventional conflicts, whether open or latent, and the heightened effects of certain global social phenomena, the Mediterranean region is also feeling the full effects of new, diffuse and violent threats, such as terrorism. Those challenges are not of course specific to the region but, when combined with other regional factors, they are exacerbated and take on added importance.

Development gaps, particularly between an integrated and prosperous Europe and a southern flank which is still developing and experiencing rapid population growth, exacerbate the social and economic problems facing the two sides. The economic disparities between the two sides of the Mediterranean speak volumes: average annual per capita income is $20,000 in the European Union countries but only $2,000 in the Maghreb and the Middle East. This economic gap between North and South in the Mediterranean region gives rise to and accentuates such troubling

phenomena as illicit trafficking and illegal migration, a situation which fuels tensions in the Mediterranean subregions.

In view of the extent and complexity of the migration phenomenon, Morocco, which is a country of origin, transit and destination, advocates a global approach to this question, which recognizes the collective responsibility of the parties concerned. It was in this spirit that it organized the Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development on 10 and 11 July 2006 with a view to laying the foundations for regional action on the issues of migration and development.

Morocco, which cooperates both at the regional and international levels in the struggle against terrorism, welcomes the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership at the summit held in Barcelona on 27 and 28 November 2005.

In this regard, Morocco believes that a Zone Free from Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Middle East would represent not just an appropriate response to the security concerns of countries in the region, but also a step in the direction of general and complete disarmament.

International terrorism has unquestionably acquired a global dimension. The phenomenon has not spared the Mediterranean region, as evidenced by the attacks carried out in Djerba, Casablanca, Istanbul and Madrid. The fight against this insidious and unpredictable threat which has challenged the world order requires collaborative efforts based on a comprehensive and concerted approach aimed at achieving the total eradication of its causes and its various manifestations.

The lack of progress towards disarmament at the international and regional levels, together with the refusal of some countries to accede to multilateral non-proliferation conventions, has the potential to affect the climate of confidence and exacerbate the arms race in the region.

Moreover, the protracted crises which have become almost chronic (Balkans, Middle East) cannot help but affect security in the region. In that regard, the Middle East conflict continues to escalate, in spite of initiatives on the part of the international community and mediation efforts. This conflict is extremely damaging to the Mediterranean identity and is a powder keg which threatens the stability of the Mediterranean region.

Other challenges of an ecological nature, such as water scarcity and water stress in many areas of the Mediterranean region, could increase tension in the region.

Given the growing challenges to peace and security in the Mediterranean region and the benefits derived from a policy of openness founded on dialogue, shared management of regional issues and acts of solidarity, Morocco has, since the late 1980s, contributed to various initiatives aimed at the promotion of real cooperation between the two shores of the Mediterranean.

In this context, Morocco's cooperation with the Mediterranean countries has been a singularly positive one, because the Kingdom of Morocco prepared the way for or initiated a number of measures aimed at restructuring the Mediterranean strategic space and strengthening dialogue and cooperation between the two shores. Morocco has always sought to enrich the conceptual framework of Euro-

Mediterranean relations, adapt their institutional mechanisms and improve the operational effectiveness of Mediterranean regional collaboration and cooperation structures.

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Barcelona Process) in particular, which is the most comprehensive and multidimensional initiative in that it addresses the question of security in the Mediterranean region in its various economic, political, cultural and social dimensions, is a fine example of such efforts.

The regional framework is complemented by abundant and varied bilateral relationships between Morocco and the European Union (EU). The long-standing, dense, robust and multidimensional nature of relations between Morocco and Europe has led the two parties to place their relations in the context of the "advanced status" requested by Morocco, which is fully in keeping with the European Union's new European Neighbourhood Policy.

The Mediterranean Forum, the 5+5 Dialogue and the Partnership with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe reinforce and complement the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in a useful and relevant manner.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Mediterranean Dialogue, in which Morocco has participated since it was launched in 1994, provides an important framework for political collaboration, a satisfactory tool for practical cooperation and an essential conduit for information exchange. Morocco is also working to stabilize the Balkans with NATO in the International Security Force in Kosovo (KFOR) and the combined civil-military cooperation (IFOR/SFOR) and with the European Union in the EU-led force (EUFOR), in which the Kingdom of Morocco is participating pursuant to the resolutions of the United Nations.

Within the framework of its cooperation with NATO, Morocco also took part in Operation Active Endeavour and was also the first country in the southern Mediterranean to host a meeting between the NATO North Atlantic Council and the seven Mediterranean Dialogue countries, which was held in Rabat on 6 and 7 April 2006.

Thanks to the growing number of collaboration and consultation mechanisms established with a view to promoting security cooperation in the Mediterranean region, there is a true sense of shared purpose, which should be accompanied by efforts to make optimal use of resources and means. Although the existence of such structures makes a positive contribution to regional security, their actions must be coordinated in order to avoid duplication and to develop synergies capable of reinforcing stability in the Mediterranean.

Furthermore, the key to the establishment of a Mediterranean regional order founded on a truly balanced partnership is improving the sense of ownership of the countries on the southern shore with regard to these various structures and initiatives.

Morocco has always believed that the indivisible nature of security requires the adoption of a comprehensive and concerted approach capable of ensuring peace and security in the region and of transforming it into a region of prosperity for all, based on active cooperation and responsibility shared between Europe and the countries of the southern shore of the Mediterranean.

The concept of the indivisibility of security now calls for the circle of Euro-Mediterranean solidarity to be widened to include other neighbouring regions, particularly Africa.

The Kingdom of Morocco believes that the narrowing of the social and economic development gap and the establishment of confidence-building measures between the countries of the region should serve as a catalyst for the emergence of a stable and prosperous regional order which will evolve from security based solely on the concept of vigilance into truly integrated security for the benefit of all the peoples of the region.

It nevertheless remains true that only real political will on the part of the States of the region can contribute to overcoming the stereotype of the Mediterranean region as a "crescent of crisis" and restore it to its original role as a zone of peace and economic, human and cultural exchanges.

United Arab Emirates

[Original: English]
[14 June 2006]

The importance of strengthening security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region has been emphasized in the following areas:

- Combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations
- Fighting international and organized crime
- Preventing illicit trade in weapons
- Combating drugs

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General and complete disarmament: confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/61/50 and Corr.1.

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I. Introduction

1. On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/64, entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context", by which, inter alia, it called upon Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and to pursue ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures, set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 session, through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue. Furthermore, the Assembly urged States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party. The Assembly also encouraged the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities. The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session, containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

2. On 28 February 2006, a note verbale was sent to all Member States requesting their views. Replies received to date are reproduced in section II below. Any further replies received will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. Replies received from States

Bolivia

[Original: Spanish]

1. General Assembly resolution 60/64, adopted on 8 December 2005 reaffirms the establishment of ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures.

2. Bolivia considers that confidence-building measures are essential in order to achieve peace in the region as a contribution thereto at the global level. Such measures should be implemented and publicized for the attention of all Member States.

3. It should be noted that confidence-building measures should be structured around the principles of transparency, verification, understanding and mutual cooperation so as to create a climate conducive to closer political and economic ties between countries in the region.

4. Bolivia remains firmly convinced that any problems that arise between States in the region must be settled peacefully. Confidence-building measures are therefore reflected in actions aimed at helping to reduce or eliminate causes or threats of conflict through a greater openness to confidence-building and security arrangements and undertakings on the part of States, thereby creating a climate of mutual cooperation and the defence of common interests, as in the European Union.

5. Bolivia pursues a foreign policy of peaceful coexistence, understanding and cooperation with the countries of the region.

6. At the subregional level, Bolivia is firmly committed to the Declaration of San Francisco de Quito, signed on 12 July 2004 whereby the States members of the Andean Community undertook to establish an Andean Zone of Peace comprising the territories, airspace and waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela as a zone free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and anti-personnel mines in which the necessary conditions will be developed to permit the peaceful and agreed solution of conflicts of any nature whatsoever as well as the causes thereof.

7. Accordingly, the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations should pursue this initiative to secure the commitment and compliance of all the Member States.

Mauritius

[Original: English]
[20 June 2006]

The Republic of Mauritius, as a member of the United Nations, fully supports its action aimed at promoting and maintaining international peace and security for the benefit of all people, without discrimination.

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/64 on confidence-building measures in the region, and subregional context from 2001 to 2002, a team from the Mauritius Police Force participated in the technical support, financial and logistics aid programme in the Comoros Islands to help promote peace and security on those islands. Moreover, Mauritius actively participates in regional and subregional committees such as the African Union (AU), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Commission, devoted to economic and social development. The Mauritius Police Force is a member of the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (SARPCCO) and Interpol, wherein much effort is being deployed to streamline policing standards and upholding human rights in the region.

Pakistan

[Original: English]
[7 June 2006]

1. General Assembly resolution 60/64, entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context", which was adopted by consensus, emphasizes that the objective of confidence-building measures (CBMs) should be to help strengthen international peace and security and be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments. It also encourages the promotion of bilateral and regional CBMs to avoid conflict and prevent unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities.

2. CBMs can contribute significantly to strengthening peace and security and to promoting trust among States. However, in order to fully appreciate the need for CBMs, the principles on which they should be based, the conditions for their effectiveness and the roles of the international community and the United Nations Secretary-General, it would be helpful to ask a few relevant questions and answer them logically, as follows:

What is the need for adopting CBMs?

3. The following provide the rationale for CBMs:

- Tensions at the regional and subregional levels constitute the main source of instability;
- Regional tensions contribute to the arms race, endangering not only international peace and security, but also undermining efforts aimed at arms control and disarmament;
- Regional tensions and the arms race obstruct peaceful settlement of disputes, extend poverty and spread despair and anger. The acquisition of military arsenals beyond legitimate security requirements is the prime cause of economic debilitation;
- By lowering tensions through CBMs and the peaceful settlement of disputes, States can devote their resources and energies to the socio-economic advancement of their people. Such an approach could also supplement efforts for arms control and disarmament, since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion;
- Effective disarmament and arms limitation measure that directly limit or reduce military potential have a particularly high confidence-building value.

What principles should form the basis for CBMs?

4. Confidence-building measures should be undertaken in conformity with principles of the United Nations Charter, in particular the following:

- Pacific settlement of disputes, under Chapter VI;
- Renunciation of the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State;
- Non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States;
- Sovereign equality of States and self-determination of peoples under foreign occupation and domination.

What are the conditions under which CBMs are most effective?

5. Confidence-building measures are most effective when:

- CBMs are pursued in parallel with earnest efforts for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the United Nations Charter. Without progress towards eliminating underlying causes of disputes and mistrust between States, the utility of confidence-building measures will be limited;
- There is sincerity and a genuine desire to lower tensions and settle disputes peacefully;
- Open consultations and dialogue in the regions of tension and conflict take place without preconditions;
- CBMs help to manage conflict and lead to conflict resolution;

- Restraint is exercised, including in the acquisition of arms. Massive acquisition of arms and weapon systems by one of the States in a region or parties to CBMs would constitute a destabilizing development and undermine the process of CBMs;

- A regional arms race stops through the achievement of security at the lowest level of armaments;

- CBMs encourage maintenance of military balance among the regional States in the acquisition, development and deployment of various weapon systems;

- There is strict compliance with bilateral, regional and international arms control and disarmament agreements to which the concerned States are parties;

- A comprehensive approach is pursued with CBMs in the political, military, economic, social, humanitarian and cultural fields;

- The appropriate mix of different types of CBMs is determined for each region by the countries of the region themselves.

Poland

[Original: English]
[1 May 2006]

1. Polish policy on conventional arms control plays an important role in security policy at the regional and subregional levels. Poland is a party to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe. The Treaty has established a secure and stable balance of conventional armed forces in Europe based on peaceful cooperation. Therefore, it has become and remains the cornerstone of security and stability in Europe, in terms of the reduction of tensions owing to the accumulation of weapons through arms control at the regional level and of greater stability through confidence-building, transparency, predictability and information exchange among States parties to the Treaty.

2. Poland is also a party of the Treaty on Open Skies, which establishes a programme of unarmed aerial surveillance flights over the entire territory of its participants. It is designed to enhance mutual understanding and confidence by giving all participants, regardless of their size, a direct role in gathering information about military forces and activities of concern to them and is one of the most wide-ranging international efforts to date promoting openness and transparency of military forces and activities. Poland also participates in other conventional arms-control agreements concluded within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including the Vienna Document 1999 of the negotiations on confidence and security-building measures, which is designed to promote mutual trust and dispel concern about military activities by encouraging openness and transparency. Its provisions regarding the exchange and verification of military information on participating States' armed forces, their defence policies and military activities, including the size of defence budgets, the location, size and strength of military units and formations, the exchange of annual calendars and prior notification of certain military activities, as well as observation of certain military activities, increase transparency and confidence by promoting broader and more comprehensive cooperation among States on the regional and subregional levels.

3. As a member of the European Union (EU) the Republic of Poland meets its obligations in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, such as the European Union programme for preventing and combating illicit trafficking in conventional arms and the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports. All above-mentioned agreements and initiatives constitute an essential element of cooperation aimed at European security and will continue to remain an important tool for strengthening security as long as military and security risks exist, although they may be different in nature and scope from those of the past.

4. We attach great importance to regional confidence- and security-building measures. Bilateral measures undoubtedly contribute to an increase in transparency, openness, confidence and security and to the establishment and strengthening of good neighbourly relations and cooperation in the field of security and arms control. Good examples of successful cooperation on the subregional level are: the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Complementary Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, signed in April 2004, and the Set of Confidence- and Security-Building Measures Complementary to the Vienna Document of 1999 adopted by the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Poland, signed in July 2004. The aim of these agreements is the expansion of bilateral military cooperation as a contribution to further strengthening confidence, good neighbourliness and security in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. It can be achieved by, among others: inviting observers to the military activities specified in the agreements conducted by formations and units of the armed forces, holding annual meetings to work out recommendations aimed at the improvement of the implementation of the measures mentioned in the agreements and to assess their implementation.

5. Poland, with its positive experience in the implementation of the European conventional arms-control regime, strongly encourages other Member States that have not already done so to begin negotiations on these kinds of agreements. We are strongly convinced that strengthening and expanding regional and subregional cooperation among States and the implementation of existing bilateral and multilateral agreements to which they are parties contribute to further strengthening confidence between them and security on regional and subregional levels and within the United Nations community as a whole. For our part, we are ready to share with interested States our experience gained during the negotiation and implementation of above-mentioned conventional arms-control agreements.

Suriname

[Original: English]
[14 June 2006]

1. Suriname promotes the peaceful settlement of disputes.

2. The Ministry of Defence and the Suriname Armed Forces work in accordance with regulations which define their policy.

3. Suriname is party to various international conventions concerning disarmament issues such as:

(a) the Chemical Weapons Convention, as of 30 April 1997;

(b) the Biological Weapon Convention, 6 January 1993;

(c) the Non-Proliferation Treaty, 30 June 1976;

(d) the Treaty of Tlatelolco, 7 June 1997;

(e) the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty 9 April 1993.

The Ministry of Defence in concert with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is responsible for reporting on obligations under these treaties. Suriname does not possess any weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical, biological).

4. The Suriname Armed Forces are the only entity that possess conventional weapons. Suriname presented its list of conventional weapons to the United Nations in 1992 and has since then reported on a regular basis in the form of a nil report, because there haven't been any new purchases.

5. With regards to foreign military education and training programmes, Suriname has bilateral agreements with:

- France on the exchange of military personnel for regular and advanced training and jungle warfare courses
- Netherlands: e.g. jungle warfare courses
- The United States:

  a. The International Military Education and Training (IMET) Program provides training in the United States and in some cases in overseas United States military facilities to selected foreign military and related civilian personnel on a grant basis;

  b. Joint Cooperation Exercise and Training (JCET) consists of activities where United States soldiers go to a foreign country to do training exercises in cooperation with the military in that country;

  c. Trade Winds, where funds are allocated for military training in the Caribbean;

  d. Traditional Commanders Activities (TCA) consist of funds to conduct military-to-military contacts and comparable activities that are designed to encourage a more democratic orientation by defence establishments and military forces in other countries;

  e. Peacekeeping Operations (PKO): United States military together with soldiers from other countries do peacekeeping operations. Suriname participates in peacekeeping exercise programmes of the United States but not in peacekeeping operations at the present time. With regards to the casualties in Haiti (1995) Suriname participated in a United Nations peacekeeping operation as part of the contingent from the Netherlands;

- Brazil: education and training;
- Indonesia: education and training;
- Venezuela: education and training.

6. Suriname has bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries on border security to put an end to the smuggling of goods, illegal border-crossings, etc. With regards to this matter there is a river patrol on a regular basis between French Guyana and Suriname on the Marowijne River (border between Suriname and

French Guyana) and there are talks with Brazil on how to secure the southern border of Suriname.

7. Suriname is party to the Ottawa Convention on mines since 1 November 2002. During the internal war in 1986 a number of landmines were laid within the national territory. Approximately 1,000 landmine have been removed. The initial demining operation consisted of an international effort supported by the Governments of Guyana and Brazil, which donated demining equipment with the financial support of Holland. The mine clearance activities were conducted by members of the Suriname Armed Forces, technically supported by members of the Brazilian army and supervised and assisted by the Organization of American States Booby traps, weapons and mines were destroyed, allowing the former inhabitants to return to their homes. The complete mine clearing operation in the remaining mine field in Suriname (to be exact, Stolkertsijver in the Commewijne district) was begun by the Suriname Armed Forces together with the Honduran Army in the period from November to December 2004. Today, Suriname is mine-free.

8. Suriname is party to the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials and the Proliferation of and Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects. In that regard, it is important to note that Suriname does not have any arms industries. It imports its firearms, their components and ammunition. Suriname has a long history of strict firearms control legislation. It consists of norms, standards and legislation which includes import, export and trans-shipment control of firearms, their components and ammunition. Control on the sale of firearms, licence requirements for dealers and users, record requirements for sales, prohibition provisions for certain types of arms and strict penalties for illegal possession or firearms misuse.

9. Suriname is in the category of small island States because of its relatively small population, small economy and industrial capacity, low gross domestic product and long borders, which can lead to special security concerns such as drug-related activities, illegal trade in small arms and light weapons, transnational crime and terrorism. However, Suriname has the ability to develop into a growing economy because of its richness in national recourses. Suriname is party to various anti-terrorism conventions including The Hague Convention and the Montreal Convention and Protocol, the Tokyo Convention, the Inter-American Convention against the Taking of Hostages and the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism. Suriname has also implemented an airport and seaport security code.

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Item 117 of the provisional agenda*
Programme planning

Proposed revisions to the biennial programme plans and priorities for the period 2006-2007

Summary

Further to General Assembly resolution 58/269, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, inter alia, a biennial programme plan to cover two years, the present document contains a consolidation of the biennial programme plans for the period 2006-2007 of four programmes that have been subject to revision as a result of decisions taken by executive direction or the policymaking organs responsible for the programmes in question.

The proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan (A/59/6/Rev.1) concern programmes 7 (Economic and social affairs), 11 (Environment), 14 (Economic and social development in Africa) and 16 (Economic development in Europe).

* A/61/50 and Corr.1

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Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

Background

7.1 At its sixth session, held in New York from 13 to 24 February 2006, the United Nations Forum on Forests adopted the draft resolution contained in paragraph 1 of its report to the Economic and Social Council.[1] As that resolution had programme budget implications, the resulting modifications to subprogramme 9 of programme 7, Economic and Social Affairs, are presented below. It is expected that the resolution will be endorsed by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in July 2006.

Subprogramme 9
Sustainable forest management

Objective of the Organization: to advance long-term political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests at the global, regional and national levels and to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed global objectives on forests

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective international dialogue on sustainable forest management and facilitation of the adoption and implementation of the non-legally binding instrument	(a) (i) The number of resolutions, decisions and other outcomes of intergovernmental bodies that are based on policy options proposed by the subprogramme (ii) The number of countries providing proposals for the indicative elements of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (iii) The number of countries reporting on policies, measures and goals in support of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
(b) Enhanced monitoring and assessment of and reporting on internationally agreed actions for the implementation of sustainable forest management, based on a common understanding of forest-related concepts, terminology and definitions, including through the further development and use of established criteria and indicators developed by regional processes	(b) Increased number of reports, including case studies, submitted by countries and other stakeholders that utilize forest-related concepts, terminology and definitions

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 22* (E/2006/42).

(c) Increased international cooperation, collaboration, coordination and knowledge exchange among Governments, major groups, organizations, instruments and processes, including through activities of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests	(c) Number of partnerships, collaborative activities and country and organization-led initiatives undertaken to support the international forest policy dialogue

Strategy

7.2 The secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Supporting efforts to achieve the internationally shared global objectives on forests, including: reversal of loss of forest cover; enhancement of forest-based economic, social and environment benefits; significant increase of the area of sustainably managed forests; and reversal of the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management, in particular through effective implementation of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;

(b) Promoting greater awareness of and supporting the implementation of forest-related aspects of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, as well as those stemming from the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests processes and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(c) Facilitating the adoption and implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;

(d) Providing substantive support for continued policy development, dialogue and agreements among Governments, international organizations and other interested parties, including major groups;

(e) Participating in and servicing the Collaborative Partnership on Forests for enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues among relevant international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments;

(f) Facilitating, monitoring, assessing and reporting on the progress of national, regional and global actions in sustainable forest development, as well as undertaking research on and analysis and dissemination of that data and information, including through the United Nations Forum on Forests web site;

(g) Contributing to strengthened international cooperation, including by catalysing financial resources and fostering North-South and public-private partnerships in sustainable forest management;

(h) Providing substantive support for the mobilization and exchange of technical and scientific knowledge and information, including through the provision of technical advisory services, upon request, and conducting training courses, seminars and workshops;

(i) Encouraging and assisting countries, including those with low forest cover, to develop and implement forest conservation and rehabilitation strategies, increase the area of forests under sustainable management and reduce forest

degradation and the loss of forest cover, in order to maintain and improve their forest resources with a view to enhancing the benefits of forests to meet present and future needs, in particular the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities, whose livelihoods depend on forests.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 9
Sustainable forest management

General Assembly resolutions

57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2000/35	Report on the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
2005/29	Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixth session

Programme 11
Environment

Background

11.1 Certain revisions to the biennial programme plan for programme 11, Environment, for the period 2006-2007 are proposed owing to the organizational restructuring the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) underwent in September 2005 to better align the structure with priorities and to further strengthen and streamline programme implementation. The restructuring basically entailed: consolidating organizational entities within UNEP that deal with natural resources; consolidating cross-cutting issues such as poverty and environment and environmental education and training; relocating the Regional Seas Programme from subprogramme 6 to subprogramme 3; and placing the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, heretofore implemented under subprogramme 3, under subprogramme 1. Revisions to programme 11 of the 2006-2007 biennial programme plan relate to the modification of subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 6.

11.2 The proposed revisions are submitted in line with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 58/269, in which the Assembly requested the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in performing its programmatic role in the planning and budgeting process, to review the programmatic aspects of the new and/or revised mandates approved by the Assembly subsequent to the adoption of the biennial programme plan, as well as any differences that arise between the biennial programme plan and the programmatic aspects of the proposed programme budget.

11.3 Updates of mandates adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP and the General Assembly subsequent to adoption of the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007 by the Assembly in its resolution 59/275 form part of the revisions and are reflected in the listing of mandates in the present report.

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

Objective of the Organization: to ensure that environmental problems and emerging issues of wide international significance receive appropriate and earliest possible consideration by decision makers at the national and international levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced awareness of and cooperation on environmental problems and emerging issues among Governments and the public to better support sustainability and the survival, dignity and livelihood of individuals	(a) (i) Increased number of references to environmental assessments in intergovernmental forums and the media and visits to reports available on the Internet (ii) Increased number of Governments and scientists involved in environmental assessment processes
(b) Development of self-sustaining data and information systems to improve accessibility to credible and comparable data and use of indicators for better understanding and decision-making regarding environmental issues	(b) (i) Increased number of users accessing data and monitoring networks (ii) Increased number of downloads of core sets of data and indicators used by UNEP
(c) Increased participation or involvement in environmental assessment and reporting in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to better achieve the targets of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	(c) Increased number of institutions from developing countries and countries with economies in transition (i) able to collect, process and analyse data and (ii) involved in environmental assessment processes
(d) Strengthened capacity of international, regional and national institutions to analyse the biodiversity status	(d) Increased number of biodiversity collaborating centres and partnerships with major stakeholders established by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

Strategy

11.4 The Division of Early Warning and Assessment is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To strengthen the scientific basis for decision-making by undertaking timely, policy-relevant and scientifically credible environmental assessments;

(b) To enable Governments to develop improved environmental data and information systems for early warning and decision-making by supporting monitoring and data collection systems and developing indicators for assessments and reporting;

(c) To support environmental governance for sustainable development by strengthening cooperation with and building the capacity of national, subregional, regional and international institutions for assessment, monitoring, data management and reporting;

(d) To continue the development of the information and other services provided by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, in partnership with collaborating centres, especially in developing countries, and in cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity and other agencies;

(e) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

Objective of the Organization: to enhance, within the framework of the existing UNEP mandate, the capacity of member States and the international community to develop and improve policy and legal frameworks to address new and continuing environmental challenges in the context of sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Further development of environmental law, including the integration of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and its implementation through effective participation of legal stakeholders	(a) Increased evidence of integration of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in legal regimes through the participation of legal stakeholders in the development and implementation of environmental law
(b) Strengthened capacity of Governments and national, subregional and regional institutions, networks and coordinating mechanisms in the implementation of environmental policies, legislation and management practices	(b) (i) Increased number of countries, institutions and other stakeholders supported in the implementation of environmental policies and legislation (ii) Increased number of environmental education and training programmes offered through national education systems and institutions of learning

(c) Enhanced capacity of policymakers to respond to environmental challenges and internationally agreed development goals through the development of new and revised policy instruments, taking into account socio-economic concerns, and incorporating such policies at the national level into development strategies	(c) Increased number of national policies and development strategies that incorporate the environmental dimension
(d) Improved engagement of major groups in the development and implementation of environmental policy and law	(d) Increased number of major groups that participate effectively at the regional and global levels in policy development of UNEP
(e) Enhanced understanding by all partners of the need to incorporate the environmental dimension in efforts to meet internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation	(e) Increased inclusion of environmental objectives in outcomes (e.g., resolutions, decisions, policy strategies and guidelines) of United Nations intergovernmental and inter-agency bodies and improved implementation thereof

Strategy

11.5 The Division of Policy Development and Law is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be to empower, in collaboration with Governments and other partners and through inter-agency cooperation, a broad cross section of legal stakeholders, policymakers and major groups to participate effectively in the development, analysis, implementation, compliance with and enforcement of environmental laws and policies on sustainable development by:

(a) Providing opportunities for interaction, options for consideration, required information, training and other facilities;

(b) Supporting environmental education programmes initiatives which are aimed at transforming conservation visions and aspirations for poverty reduction;

(c) Promoting the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP;

(d) Strengthening national institutions (including legal frameworks) and the capacity of practitioners, for example, judges, lawyers and major groups.

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

Objective of the Organization: to enhance implementation of environmental policies, legislation and management practices and to mitigate the environmental impact of emergencies and post-conflict situations on sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of national and regional institutions, networks and coordinating mechanisms in the implementation of environmental management practices	(a) Increased number of partnerships, collaborating mechanisms and networks engaged in implementing environmental management measures at the regional and subregional levels
(b) Improved participation, coordination and capacity at the international and national levels for the integrated management of water resources and protection of the marine environment	(b) (i) Increased number of action plans, partnerships, networks and coordinating mechanisms for integrated water resources management (ii) Number of national policies, global and regional guidelines and implementation strategies developed to implement the Global Programme of Action at the national and local levels
(c) Enhanced capacity at the international, regional, subregional and national levels to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies and to conduct post-disaster/conflict assessments and clean-up	(c) (i) The number of activities conducted by UNEP, carried out with inter-agency collaboration, as appropriate, to assist countries, subregions and regions to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies caused by natural disasters and human-induced incidents (ii) The number of environmental post-conflict assessments conducted (iii) The number of follow-up activities to implement post-conflict assessment conclusions
(d) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, enhanced synergies between regional seas programmes and other regional environmental agreements and UNEP, multilateral environmental agreements and intergovernmental organizations in developing and implementing joint programmes and activities	(d) Increased number of regional seas programmes and other regional environmental agreements benefiting from cooperation with UNEP, multilateral environmental agreements and intergovernmental organizations

Strategy

11.6 The Division of Environmental Policy Implementation is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To promote a UNEP-wide integrated approach to the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP;

(b) To enhance capacities of Governments and other stakeholders to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;

(c) To address capacity and institutional development needs at the international, regional, subregional and national levels to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies caused by natural disasters, human-induced accidents and conflicts;

(d) To integrate environmental considerations into post-conflict reconstruction by conducting environmental assessments and identifying strategic issues for environmental assistance, including environmental risk reduction, rehabilitation and capacity-building;

(e) To promote the participation of national Governments and other stakeholders in special projects and partnerships to address specific needs for environmental management and sustainable development.

Subprogramme 6
Environmental conventions

Objective of the Organization: to strengthen implementation of and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and to promote and enhance interlinkages and synergies between them and with UNEP, taking into account the autonomous decision-making authority of the Conferences of Parties

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, enhanced collaboration among multilateral environmental agreement secretariats supported by UNEP	(a) Increased number of collaborative activities among multilateral environmental agreements implemented with UNEP support
(b) Strong partnerships among global, regional and national stakeholders for the strengthening of linkages and synergies, including harmonization of reporting	(b) Increased number of arrangements reached between multilateral environmental agreements, UNEP and national authorities which promote linkages and synergies
(c) UNEP programmes take account of socio-economic driving factors in implementation of multilateral environmental agreements	(c) Increased number of joint programmes with the multilateral environmental agreements which address the links between poverty and the environment

(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in intergovernmental negotiations through implementation by UNEP of joint programmes with multilateral environmental agreements	(d) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition participating effectively at multilateral environmental agreement meetings and multilateral environmental agreement-related meetings supported by UNEP

Strategy

11.7 The Division of Environmental Conventions is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. The strategy in the biennium 2006-2007 will be:

(a) To support the ratification and promote the implementation and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements, giving priority to those administered by UNEP and taking into account the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition as well as the UNEP guidelines on compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements;

(b) In cooperation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, to work to enhance coordination of environmental conventions at the global, regional and national levels;

(c) In consultation with the secretariats and Conferences of Parties to the multilateral environmental agreements, to enhance collaboration with multilateral environmental agreements on environment and poverty alleviation towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

(d) To enhance support for participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements;

(e) To assist and support national Governments in implementation of environmental policies that promote enforcement of and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements;

(f) To increase the use of regional seas conventions, action plans and regional mountain agreements as a platform for coordinated regional implementation of multilateral environmental agreements as well as mandates of intergovernmental organizations and other global and regional initiatives;

(g) To promote the implementation of the outcome of the international environmental governance process in enhancing delivery of the capacity-building initiatives of UNEP.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

2997 (XXVII)	Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21
53/242	Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
55/198	Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 6)
57/2	United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/251	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session
58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
59/230	Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 6)
59/237	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
60/15	Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster
60/30	Oceans and the law of the sea (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
60/98	Effects of atomic radiation
60/99	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
60/124	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
60/125	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
60/130	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
60/142	Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

60/189	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-third session
60/192	International Year of Planet Earth (2008)
60/193	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
60/194	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
60/195	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
60/196	Natural disasters and vulnerability (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
60/197	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind
60/198	Sustainable mountain development (subprogrammes 2, 3, 5 and 6)
60/200	International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006 (subprogrammes 3, 5 and 7)
60/205	Science and technology for development
60/209	Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
60/212	South-South Cooperation
60/215	Towards global partnerships
60/222	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
60/223	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
60/228	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries: high-level meeting on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Governing Council decisions

SS.VI/1	Malmö Ministerial Declaration
SS.VII/1	International environmental governance (subprogrammes 2 and 5)
SS.VII/4	Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements (subprogrammes 2 and 6)
SS.VIII/1	Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance
SS.VIII/2	Small island developing States
19/1	Nairobi Declaration on the Role and the Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme
20/6	Policy and advisory services of the United Nations Environment Programme in key areas of institution-building
20/12	Implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system
20/17	Views of the Governing Council on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
20/25	Freshwater (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4)
20/28	Promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 6)
20/29	Policy and advisory services of the United Nations Environment Programme in key areas of economics, trade and financial services
20/33	Stable, adequate and predictable funding for the United Nations Environment Programme
21/18	Implementation of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration
21/20	Governance of the United Nations Environment Programme and implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242
21/21	International environmental governance
21/24	Policy and advisory services in key areas of institution-building (subprogrammes 2, 3, 4 and 6)
22/4	Chemicals
	III: Lead (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
22/5	Enhancing the role of the United Nations Environment Programme on forest-related issues (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 6)

22/9	Support to Africa (subprogrammes 1-6)
22/10	Poverty and the environment in Africa (subprogrammes 2 and 5)
22/12	Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 5)
22/15	International Year of Deserts and Desertification (subprogrammes 2, 3, 5 and 7)
23/1	Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance
	I: Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building
	IV: Strengthening the financing of the United Nations Environment Programme
23/5	Small island developing States (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
23/7	Strengthening environmental emergency response and developing disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and early-warning systems in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster (subprogrammes 1, 3 and 5)
23/10	Poverty and the environment

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

Governing Council decisions

SS.VIII/1	II: Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme
20/1	Global Environment Outlook
22/1	II: Global assessment of the state of the marine environment
23/1	II: Strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme
23/6	Keeping the world environmental situation under review

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

General Assembly resolutions

58/158	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
60/47	Question of Antarctica

60/210	Women in development

Governing Council decisions

SS.VII/5	Enhancing civil society engagement in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme
SS.VIII/1	VI: Enhanced coordination across the United Nations system and the Environmental Management Group
21/23	Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III)
22/16	Environment and cultural diversity
22/17	Governance and law
	I: Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 57/251 on the report of the seventh special session of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum
	II: Implementation of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law for the First Decade of the Twenty-first Century (Montevideo Programme III)
23/1	VI: Enhanced coordination across the United Nations system and the Environmental Management Group
23/11	Gender equality in the field of the environment

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

Governing Council decisions

21/27	Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements
21/29	Establishment of a regional seas programme for the Central-East Pacific region
22/1	Early warning assessment and monitoring
	III: United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring System
	IV: Post-conflict environmental assessment
	V: Environment in the Occupied Palestinian Territories
22/2	Water

	I: Water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme
	II: Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
	III: Regional Seas Programmes
	IV: Coral reefs
	V: Marine safety and protection of the marine environment from accidental pollution
22/8	Further improvement of environmental emergency prevention, preparedness, assessment, response and mitigation
23/2	Updated water policy and strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme

Subprogramme 6
Environmental conventions

General Assembly resolutions

60/201	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
60/202	Convention on Biological Diversity

Governing Council decisions

20/18	Environmental conventions
21/1	Land degradation: support for the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
21/8	Biosafety
21/9	Atmosphere
22/3	Climate and atmosphere
	I: Adaptation to climate change
	II: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
22/11	Sustainable development of the Arctic
23/1	V: Multilateral environmental agreements

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

Background

14.1 The revision to the biennial programme plan for programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, results from Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) resolution 844 (XXXIX) on repositioning ECA to better respond to Africa's priorities. In particular, the ministerial statement of the 2006 ECA Conference of African Ministers stressed the urgent need for the Commission to enhance the institutional capacities of African countries to collect, compile and use quality statistics for improved economic management.

14.2 Consequently, the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007 is being revised: (a) to include a new subprogramme on statistics (subprogramme 9); and (b) to shift expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b) of subprogramme 1 to the new subprogramme 9.

14.3 The subprogramme will strive to enhance the institutional capacities of African countries to collect, compile and use quality statistics for improved economic management and tracking progress towards internationally agreed development goals in accordance with international standards. The lead will be taken in the implementation of the new reference regional strategic framework for statistical capacity-building in Africa and providing adequate support to countries to design, adopt and implement their national strategy for the development of statistics. In achieving the expected accomplishments, timely and accurate information, analyses and policy recommendations will be provided in addition to capacity-building assistance to develop national policies. In addition, the subprogramme will aim at enhancing capacity for the collection of sex-disaggregated and gender-responsive statistics in socio-economic groups.

Subprogramme 1
Facilitating economic and social policy analysis

Objective of the Organization: to achieve greater and sustained economic growth for poverty reduction and sustainable development in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capacity of member States to design, implement and monitor pro-poor development policies consistent with the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992 and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development	(a) (i) Increased number of countries and regional organizations able to design and implement sound policies and programmes for achieving higher growth and poverty reduction (ii) Increased number of countries with poverty reduction strategy papers reflecting a deeper assessment of poverty and growth issues

	(iii) Increased number of policies, instruments and initiatives for prudent fiscal and debt management and resource mobilization

Strategy

14.4 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Trade, Finance and Economic Development Division, heretofore called the Economic and Social Policy Division. The strategy will focus on the following three priority areas: (a) tracking regional and country economic performance in order to provide timely and accurate information, analysis and options for short-term policy design and for other nationally owned development programmes in the context of implementation of the objectives of poverty reduction strategy papers; (b) strengthening poverty reduction strategies, including programmes to empower the poor and to improve the delivery of basic social services targeted at the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; and (c) promoting measures to enhance financial resource mobilization for development, including reduction of debt to sustainable levels, promoting mutual accountability and aid effectiveness. The strategy will also include research, advocacy and policy analyses on emerging issues, including an examination of the implications of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other related infectious diseases for the development process. Technical assistance, with a focus on strengthening national capacities for economic and social policy formulation and implementation, will be provided to member States, at their request, with particular attention to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

Subprogramme 9
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: to improve the production, dissemination and use of key demographic, social, economic and environmental statistics, including the Millennium Development Goals indicators, in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices, as well as to promote the implementation of the new reference regional strategic framework for statistical capacity-building in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
Enhancement of the statistical capacities of African countries for better economic management and tracking progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals	Increased number of countries compiling the minimum required data set and complying with the 1993 System of National Accounts

Strategy

14.5 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the newly established African Centre for Statistics. The statistics component of the ECA work programme was heretofore carried out under subprogramme 1, Facilitating economic and social policy analysis. Subprogramme 9 will strive to enhance the

institutional capacities of African countries to collect, compile and use quality statistics for improved economic management and tracking progress towards internationally agreed development goals in accordance with international standards. Timely and accurate information, analyses and policy recommendations, as well as capacity-building assistance to develop national policies, will be provided in the effort to achieve the expected accomplishments.

14.6 The strategy will include: policy analysis and advocacy; institution-building and training; knowledge networking, sharing of information and experiences and disseminating best practices; and providing technical assistance, including advisory services to member States and their institutions. The subprogramme will also coordinate and cooperate with other United Nations organizations, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, regional intergovernmental organizations and relevant international organizations, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the Observatoire économique et statistique d'Afrique subsaharienne (AFRISTAT) and Paris 21.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

48/180	Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development
49/128	Report of the International Conference on Population and Development
54/204	Business and development
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/2	United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/270	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
58/142	Women and political participation
58/218	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
59/22	Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie
59/213	Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome

60/2	Policies and programmes involving youth
60/34	Public administration and development
60/130	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
60/157	The right to development
60/204	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
60/205	Science and technology for development
60/210	Women in development
60/211	Human resources development
60/212	South-South cooperation
60/222	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
60/223	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
60/228	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries: high-level meeting on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
60/235	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of programme and administrative management for the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts (subprogrammes 1 and 9)
2000/27	Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels
2001/21	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
2003/49	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

2005/48	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

790 (XXIX)	Capacity-building for statistical development in Africa
798 (XXX)	Promotion of private investment in Africa
837 (XXXIV)	Development of the African Initiative
838 (XXXV)	Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan of the Economic Commission for Africa for the period 2002-2005
841 (XXXVI)	Programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2004-2005: ministerial statement
844 (XXXIX)	Repositioning ECA to better respond to Africa's priorities
845 (XXXIX)	Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa
846 (XXXIX)	African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

Subprogramme 1
Facilitating economic and social policy analysis

General Assembly resolutions

54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries
58/201	Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
58/202	International financial system and development
58/221	Programme of Action for the International Year of Microcredit, 2005
58/222	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)
58/236	Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS
58/237	2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa
60/187	External debt crisis and development

60/188	Follow-up and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development
60/194	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2003/13	National and international cooperation for social development: implementation of the social objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
2003/17	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

799 (XXX)	Promoting human development in Africa
815 (XXXI)	Mobilization of resources for industrialization in Africa
831 (XXXIII)	Economic Report on Africa 1999
832 (XXXIII)	HIV/AIDS in Africa
840 (XXXV)	Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

Background

16.1 At its annual session in February 2004, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) decided to commission a comprehensive report on the state of ECE to determine what changes to its role, mandate and functions were necessary in the light of the changes in the European institutional architecture.

16.2 In July 2005, on the basis of an external evaluation report on the state of ECE issued at the end of June, the States members of the Commission decided to launch a negotiating process on ECE reform. For this purpose, an Open-ended Negotiating Committee, which met regularly from 20 September to 22 November 2005, was established. At its last meeting, the Committee successfully concluded its work by agreeing on a workplan on ECE reform. Based on the recommendations on the role, mandate and functions of ECE reflected in the report on the state of ECE, the Commission adopted decision E/ECE/1434/Rev.1.

16.3 The General Assembly, in its resolution 60/248 X, welcomed the workplan on reform of ECE adopted by the Commission, decided that the Commission should implement the adopted measures outlined in its decision and, to that end, requested the Secretary-General to allocate the requisite resources within section 19,

Economic development in Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

16.4 The reform actions taken include remodelling the ECE governance structure, improving cost-effectiveness and transparency, redefining the priorities of the programme of work and fostering coordination with other organizations also active in Europe. These actions match the spirit of the broader United Nations reform effort now under way. Its main features can be outlined as follows:

(a) Substantial streamlining of the overall governance structure of ECE through: (i) the establishment of an Executive Committee which will take over the functions until now performed by the Bureau of the Commission, the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work and the Steering Committee; and (ii) the biennialization of the sessions of the Commission;

(b) Strengthening of accountability and transparency in order to ensure the coherence and cost effectiveness of the activities of the organization; this will be achieved mainly through the governance functions to be exercised by the new Executive Committee and, on the part of the secretariat, through more reporting and improved communication, as well as by establishing a Programme Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within the Office of the Executive Secretary;

(c) Major restructuring of the ECE programme of work, guided by the priorities agreed upon by the States members of the Commission, reflected in the following programme shifts: (i) discontinuation of two subprogrammes (Economic analysis and Industrial restructuring and enterprise development); (ii) establishment of a new subprogramme, Economic cooperation and integration, to address the specific development problems of countries with transition/emerging market economies; (iii) strengthening of two subprogrammes of highest priority for member States (Environment and Transport) and a moderate reinforcement of three other subprogrammes (Trade, Energy and Timber) for specific areas of activities, as identified in the workplan; and (iv) maintenance of two subprogrammes at their present size (Statistics and Human settlements);

(d) Fostering of coordination and cooperation of ECE with other organizations (both part of the United Nations system and external to it) also active in Europe to maximize synergies, avoid duplication and, thereby, ensuring an effective complementation of work.

16.5 All of the above-mentioned measures are proposed within existing resources and are therefore expected to be implemented through the redeployment of existing ECE resources. The overall rationale is to discontinue subprogrammes where ECE has no comparative advantages vis-a-vis other international organizations, to launch new activities corresponding to emerging needs of the membership and to strengthen areas which are considered high priority by member States and where ECE has a comparative advantage.

16.6 These substantive shifts in the programme of work of ECE reflect the willingness of its member States to: (i) adapt the organization to the new needs of its membership, (ii) adjust to the changing institutional landscape of the ECE region; and (iii) respond further to the important mandates emanating from the General

Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other major global conferences and summits, which require follow-up and implementation at the regional level.

16.7 The proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007 are as follows: replacement of subprogramme 4, Economic analysis, by a newly established subprogramme, Economic cooperation and integration; discontinuation of subprogramme 9, Industrial restructuring and enterprise development; and renaming of subprogramme 6, Trade development, to be called Trade, subprogramme 7, Timber, to be called Timber and forestry, and subprogramme 8, Human settlements, to be called Housing, land management and population. The activities in the field of population previously carried out under the former subprogramme 4, Economic analysis, are not discontinued; rather, they are moved to subprogramme 8, Housing, land management and population. The logical framework for subprogramme 8, however, remains unchanged.

Subprogramme 4
Economic cooperation and integration

Objective of the Organization: to promote a more conducive policy, financial and regulatory environment for economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced sharing of best practices and their promotion among member countries on issues dealt with by the subprogramme	(a) Increased number of best practices discussed and disseminated under the subprogramme
(b) Adoption by the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration of practical and action-oriented policy recommendations/guidelines on issues placed on its 2008-2009 work programme	(b) Set of policy recommendations/guidelines adopted by the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration
(c) Increased implementation of the ECE recommendations on matters dealt with by the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration	(c) (i) Increased number of practical steps taken by Governments and other stakeholders to implement recommendations of the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (ii) Number of requests acted on for policy-advisory services and capacity-building activities aimed at assisting countries to implement recommendations of the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Strategy

16.8 The responsibility for the subprogramme will be vested in the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division. In order to achieve its objective, the subprogramme will focus on key aspects of economic development and integration

and mainly on countries of the region with economies in transition. It will deliver policy advice, facilitate policy dialogue and exchange experiences and best practices as well as develop relevant guidelines. To this end, the subprogramme will facilitate application of the experience gained, lessons learned and best practices conducive to economic growth and innovative development and elaborate on this basis recommendations aimed at creating policy and a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic development, investment and innovation. Work under the subprogramme will be demand driven, focus on specific topics and, subject to the multi-year work programme of the ECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, aim at strengthening the competitiveness of member States' economies by: (a) promoting the knowledge-based economy and innovation; (b) facilitating the development of entrepreneurship and the emergence of new enterprises; (c) facilitating effective corporate governance and regulatory policies, including those in the financial sector; and (d) promoting public-private partnerships for domestic and foreign investment, as well as intellectual property rights.

16.9 Building, inter alia, on relevant work carried out by other organizations and institutions, as well as contributions mobilized from external experts, advisers and decision makers, in particular those from countries with economies in transition, the strategy calls for undertaking applied economic analysis, collecting lessons learned and experiences gained, preparing case studies and elaborating proposals and options for policy debate among member States and other stakeholders.

16.10 The results of this work would be considered by thematic groups of experts and time-bound task forces, involving representatives of governments, international organizations, business associations and other stakeholders, which would provide a platform for exchanges of national policy experiences and identification of best practices. Subsequently, those outputs would be brought to the attention of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, which would serve as a forum for policy dialogue among member States and elaborate relevant policy recommendations, guidelines and standards. The results of the work carried out under the subprogramme would be broadly disseminated to all interested stakeholders. Those results would also serve as the basis for technical cooperation activities organized by the secretariat, such as policy advisory services and capacity-building workshops, with a view to assisting member States, upon their request, in particular countries with economies in transition, including emerging market economies, in the adaptation and application of best practices and the implementation of guidelines, standards and policy recommendations emanating from the Committee.

Legislative mandates*

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

E/ECE/1434/Rev.1 Workplan on ECE reform

* The following mandates are additional to those included in document A/59/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 4
Economic Cooperation and Integration

General Assembly resolutions

58/230	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development
59/4	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
59/243	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2004/64	International Conference on Financing for Development